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O.Z. 0050/51162

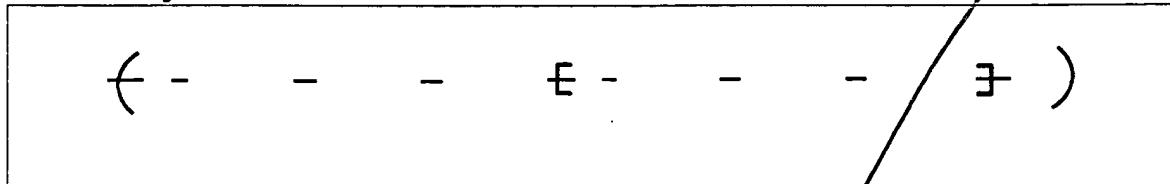
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We claim:

1. A process for preparing graft copolymers of polyvinyl esters by polymerization of

- at least one vinyl ester of aliphatic C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>-carboxylic acids in the presence of
- polyethers which are solid at room temperature and have the general formula I



in which the variables have the following meaning, independently of one another:

R<sup>1</sup> hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>-alkyl, R<sup>9</sup>-C(=O)-, R<sup>9</sup>-NH-C(=O)-, polyalcohol residue;

R<sup>8</sup> hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>-alkyl, R<sup>9</sup>-C(=O)-, R<sup>9</sup>-NH-C(=O)-;

R<sup>2</sup> to R<sup>7</sup>

-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>-, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>-, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>4</sub>-, -CH<sub>2</sub>-CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)-, -CH<sub>2</sub>-CH(CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>)-, -CH<sub>2</sub>-CHOR<sup>10</sup>-CH<sub>2</sub>-;

R<sup>9</sup> C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>-alkyl;

R<sup>10</sup> hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>-alkyl, R<sup>9</sup>-C(=O)-;

A -C(=O)-O-, -C(=O)-B-C(=O)-O-, -C(=O)-NH-B-NH-C(=O)-O-;

B -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>t</sub>-, arylene, optionally substituted;

n 1 to 8;

s 0 to 500;

t 1 to 12;

u 1 to 5000;

v 0 to 5000;

w 0 to 5000;

x 1 to 5000;

y 0 to 5000;

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z 0 to 5000

c) and, where appropriate, at least one other monomer

using a free-radical initiator system, wherein liquid polyalkylene glycol is used as solvent for the free-radical initiator system.

2. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the solution of the free-radical initiator system is added continuously throughout the polymerization reaction time.

~~3. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein liquid polyethylene glycol is used as solvent for the free-radical initiator at room temperature.~~

4. The use of the polymers prepared by a process as claimed in claim 1 as coating agents, binders and/or film-forming excipients for pharmaceutical dosage forms.

5. The use of the polymers prepared by a process as claimed in claim 1 as additives to cosmetic, hygienic and/or dermatological preparations.

6. A cosmetic, dermatological, hygienic or pharmaceutical dosage form comprising at least one of the polymers prepared by a process as claimed in claim 1 in addition to conventional excipients.

7. Graft copolymers of polyvinyl esters obtainable by polymerization of

a) at least one vinyl ester of aliphatic C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>-carboxylic acids in the presence of

b) polyethers which are solid at room temperature and have the general formula I

in which the variables have the following meaning, independently of one another:

R<sup>1</sup>    hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>-alkyl, R<sup>9</sup>-C(=O)-, R<sup>9</sup>-NH-C(=O)-, polyalcohol residue;

$R^8$  = hydrogen,  $C_1-C_{24}$ -alkyl,  $R^9-C(=O)-$ ,  $R^9-NH-C(=O)-$ ;

$R^2$  to  $R^7$

$$-(\text{CH}_2)_2-, -(\text{CH}_2)_3-, -(\text{CH}_2)_4-, -\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)-, -\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_3)-,$$

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$-\text{CH}_2-\text{CHOR}^{10}-\text{CH}_2-$ ;

R<sup>9</sup> C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>-alkyl;

R<sup>10</sup> hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>-alkyl, R<sup>9</sup>-C(=O)-;

A -C(=O)-O-, -C(=O)-B-C(=O)-O-,  
-C(=O)-NH-B-NH-C(=O)-O-;

B -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>t</sub>-, arylene, optionally substituted;

n 1 to 8;

s 0 to 500;

t 1 to 12;

u 1 to 5000;

v 0 to 5000;

w 0 to 5000;

x 1 to 5000;

y 0 to 5000;

z 0 to 5000

c) and, where appropriate, at least one other monomer

using a free-radical initiator system, wherein liquid polyalkylene glycol is used as solvent for the free-radical initiator system.